

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 10443 01 OF 02 222145Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 ERDA-05 OMB-01  
FEA-01 NRC-05 OES-07 EB-07 AGRE-00 ( ISO ) W  
-----051044 230359Z /73

R 221823Z JUN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BONN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9270  
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USMISSION NATO  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
USDEL MBFR VIENNA  
AMEMBASSY MADRID  
AMEMBASSY LISBON  
AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
USNMR SHAPE  
CINC EUR VAHINGEN  
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 10443

GENEVA FOR SEABED DEL - SLOSS; USEEC ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, GW, FR, MBFR, EEC  
SUBJECT: FRANCO-GERMAN SUMMIT

REFS: (A) BONN 10178 AND 10310 (B) BONN 10176; (C) BONN 10090

SUMMARY: I TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY OF A MEETING WITH  
FOREIGN OFFICE STATE SECRETARY VAN WELL ON ANOTHER  
TOPIC TO INQUIRE ABOUT THE RESULTS OF THE JUNE 16-17  
FRANCO-GERMAN SUMMIT WHICH TOOK PLACE IN BONN. VAN WELL  
CHARACTERIZED THE TALKS -- COVERING MBFR, EC ENLARGE-  
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PAGE 02 BONN 10443 01 OF 02 222145Z

MENT, NUCLEAR EXPORTS -- AS VERY USEFUL. THE FRENCH  
GOVERNMENT, HOWEVER, ALREADY SEEMS TO BE LABORING UNDER  
PRE-ELECTION CONSTRAINTS. VAN WELL CONFIDED THAT THE  
GERMAN SIDE IS VERY CONCERNED WITH POTENTIAL INSTABILITY  
INHERENT IN THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN FRANCE. FOR ITS  
PART, THE FRG INTENDS TO LEAN OVER BACKWARDS IN ITS  
BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP TO SUPPORT THE PRESTIGE OF

PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING. END SUMMARY.

1. I ASKED STATE SECRETARY VAN WELL FOR HIS EVALUATION OF THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED ROUND OF FRANCO-GERMAN TALKS HELD IN BONN. VAN WELL HAD THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS TO OFFER:

-- MBFR: THE GERMAN SIDE PRESSED THE ISSUE OF MBFR, CITING THE INCONGRUITY OF HAVING FUNDAMENTALLY DIFFERENT VIEWS ON A TOPIC OF SUCH VITAL IMPORTANCE TO BOTH COUNTRIES. VAN WELL SAID THE FRENCH WERE ADAMANT IN REFUSING TO CHANGE THEIR STANCE; IF ANYTHING, THEIR ATTITUDE HAD HARDENED RECENTLY. VAN WELL NOTED THAT THIS HAD BEEN EXPRESSED AT A "VERY HIGH LEVEL" ON THE FRENCH SIDE.

-- NUCLEAR EXPORTS: VAN WELL THOUGHT THE U.S. WAS ALREADY INFORMED ON THE OUTCOME OF THIS PORTION OF THE TALKS (SEE REFTTEL A). HE FELT THE FRG STATEMENT ON EXPORTS REPRESENTED A STEP FORWARD. IN ANSWER TO MY QUESTION ON THE 7 NATION STUDY GROUP, VAN WELL SAID IT WAS CLEAR THE FRENCH WERE NOT SATISFIED WITH THE SHORT PAPER AND WANT TO HAVE ANOTHER MEETING. THE EFFECT COULD BE TO DELAY THE START OF INFCEP.

-- ENLARGEMENT OF THE EC: THE FRG SIDE PRESSED "VERY CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 BONN 10443 01 OF 02 222145Z

HARD" ON BRINGING PORTUGAL AND SPAIN INTO THE EC, ARGUING THE POLITICAL IMPORTANCE OF NOT DISCOURAGING THE FRAGILE DEMOCRACIES. THE FRENCH, HOWEVER, STUCK TO

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PAGE 01 BONN 10443 02 OF 02 222146Z  
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 10443

THEIR DEMAND FOR AN OVERALL REVIEW OF EC AGRICULTURAL POLICY. AS THEY STATED IT, THIS WOULD AMOUNT TO A PRECONDITION TO PROGRESS ON ENLARGEMENT.

-- NPG: VAN WELL SAID THE FRG HAD BEEN PLEASED WITH THE RECENT NPG MEETING. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE SUBJECT OF CRUISE MISSILES IS OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO THE FRG. HE ALSO NOTED THAT THE FRENCH SEEMED VERY INTERESTED IN CRUISE MISSILES AND THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS TECHNICAL ADVANCE FOR EUROPEAN DEFENSE.

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PAGE 02 BONN 10443 02 OF 02 222146Z

2. VAN WELL SAID THAT BOTH CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT AND FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE PERIOD OF INSTABILITY WHICH APPEARS TO BE AHEAD FOR THEIR FRENCH NEIGHBORS. THEY PERCEIVE THAT INSTABILITY IN FRANCE COULD NOT HELP BUT ADVERSELY AFFECT THE REST OF EUROPE AND THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE. ACCORDINGLY, SAID VAN WELL, THE FRG INTENDS TO AVOID DOING ANYTHING THAT COULD GIVE THE GAULLISTS OR THE LEFTISTS AMMUNITION TO USE AGAINST THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT AND GISCARD. ON THE POSITIVE SIDE, THE FRG FEELS IT WILL BE DESIRABLE TO GIVE AS MUCH CREDIT AS POSSIBLE TO THE FRENCH IN EUROPEAN AND GENERAL FOREIGN POLICY MATTERS WITH THE AIM OF SHORING UP GISCARD'S PRESTIGE.

3. NEVERTHELESS, THE FRG IS NOT IGNORING THE FRENCH OPPOSITION. VAN WELL DISCLOSED THAT MITTERAND IS DUE

IN BONN ON A PARTY-TO-PARTY VISIT SOMETIME IN EARLY  
SUMMER. MITTERAND WILL PROBABLY MEET WITH CHANCELLOR  
SCHMIDT AT THAT TIME, BUT THE VISIT WILL BE HANDLED IN  
LOW-KEY.  
STOESSEL

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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